IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): An image forming apparatus that includes service modules for performing system side processes on image formation, wherein applications can be added to the image forming apparatus separately from the service modules, the image forming apparatus comprising:

an application launch part configured to access launch selection information, the launch selection information indicating at least an auxiliary storage device that stores one or more applications from among a plurality of kinds of auxiliary storage devices, and configured to launch the one or more applications from the auxiliary storage device according to the accessed launch selection information; and

a part configured to display a setting screen that sets the launch selection information on a display part of the image forming apparatus, and configured to store information input from the setting screen as the launch selection information,

wherein the service modules are stored in a memory distinct from the auxiliary storage device,

wherein the one or more applications are installed in the auxiliary storage device, and

wherein the application launch part launches the one or more applications from the auxiliary storage device by issuing an execution command which is stored in the auxiliary storage device.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the auxiliary storage device is at least one of a hard disk device, a recording medium removable from the image forming apparatus without disassembling any other portion of the

image forming apparatus, and a computer connected to the image forming apparatus via a

network.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Original): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the

application launch part launches the application by referring to information on the

application.

Claim 5 (Original): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein the

information referred to by the application launch part is address information of the

application.

Claim 6 (Original): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the

application launch part determines whether the application is installed at the location

according to presence or absence of predetermined information on the application, and the

application launch part launches the application if the application is installed at the location.

Claim 7 (Original): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the

application launch part refers to setting information including information indicating whether

a predetermined application is to be launched, and the application launch part launches the

predetermined application if the setting information includes information indicating the

predetermined application is to be launched.

Claim 8 (Original): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the application launch part refers to setting information including information indicating applications to be launched, and the application launch part launches the application indicated in the information.

Claim 9 (Original): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 8, the image forming apparatus further comprising:

a part for displaying a setting screen for setting the setting information on a display part of the image forming apparatus, and storing information input from the setting screen as the setting information.

Claim 10 (Original): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, the image forming apparatus further comprising a virtual application service that operates as a client process for the services modules and operates as a server process for the applications,

wherein the virtual application service includes the application launch part.

Claim 11 (Original): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the image forming apparatus receives an application from the computer connected to the image forming apparatus via a network by using a http protocol or a ftp protocol, and the application launch part launches the received application.

Claim 12 (Cancelled).

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 22, wherein the auxiliary storage device is at least one of a hard disk device, a recording

medium removable from the image forming apparatus, and a computer connected to the

image forming apparatus via a network.

Claim 14 (Canceled).

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The computer readable medium as claimed in claim

22, wherein the application launch program code means launches the application by referring

to information on the application.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The computer readable medium as claimed in claim

15, wherein the information referred to by the application launch program code means is

address information of the application.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The computer readable medium as claimed in claim

22, wherein the application launch program code means determines whether the application is

installed at the location according to presence or absence of predetermined information on the

application, and the application launch part launches the application if the application is

installed at the location.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The computer readable medium as claimed in claim

22, wherein the application launch program code means refers to setting information

including information indicating whether a predetermined application is to be launched, and

the application launch program code means launches the predetermined application if the

setting information includes information indicating the predetermined application is to be

launched.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 22, wherein the application launch program code means refers to setting information including information indicating applications to be launched, and the application launch program code means launches the application indicated in the information.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 19, the computer program further comprising:

program code means for displaying a setting screen for setting the setting information on a display part of the image forming apparatus, and storing information input from the setting screen as the setting information.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein the application launch program code means receives an application from the computer connected to the image forming apparatus via a network by using a http protocol or a ftp protocol, and launches the received application.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A non-transitory computer readable medium storing program code for causing an image forming apparatus to launch an application, wherein the image forming apparatus includes service modules for performing system side processes on image formation, and applications can be added to the image forming apparatus separately from the service modules, the computer readable medium comprising:

application launch program code means for accessing launch selection information, the launch selection information indicating at least a location of an auxiliary storage device

that stores one or more applications, and for launching the one or more applications from the auxiliary storage device according to the accessed launch selection information; and

program code means for displaying a setting screen for setting the launch selection information on a display part of the image forming apparatus, and storing information input from the setting screen as the launch selection information,

wherein the service modules are stored in a memory distinct from the auxiliary storage device,

wherein the one or more applications are installed in the auxiliary storage device, and

wherein the application launch program code means launches the one or more applications from the auxiliary storage device by issuing an execution command which is stored in the auxiliary storage device.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): An image forming apparatus that includes service modules for performing system side processes on image formation, wherein applications can be added to the image forming apparatus separately from the service modules, the image forming apparatus comprising:

an application launch part configured to access launch selection information, the launch selection information indicating at least a location of an auxiliary storage device that stores one or more applications, and configured to launch the one or more applications from the auxiliary storage device according to the accessed launch selection information, the auxiliary storage device corresponding to a recording medium removable from the image forming apparatus without disassembling any other portion of the image forming apparatus; and

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a part configured to display a setting screen that sets the launch selection information

on a display part of the image forming apparatus, and configured to store information input

from the setting screen as the launch selection information,

wherein the service modules are stored in a memory distinct from the auxiliary

storage device,

wherein the one or more applications are installed in the auxiliary storage device, and

wherein the application launch part launches the one or more applications from the

auxiliary storage device by issuing an execution command which is stored in the auxiliary

storage device.

Claims 24-26 (Cancelled).